

## CHAPTER 30

## FIRE FIGHTING ENSEMBLE

30-1. **GENERAL.** This chapter contains information about the fire fighting ensemble. This ensemble is authorized for use on US Army watercraft.

**WARNING**

The ensemble does not offer protection against chemical, biological, or radiological effects.

The firefighter ensemble is intended to protect the firefighter from flame (flash) exposure, heat, and falling debris.

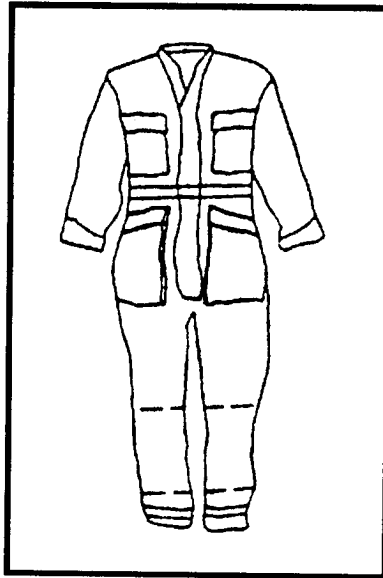
30-2. **ENSEMBLE.** The firefighter ensemble consists of the following:

- Firefighter's coveralls.
- Anti-flash hood.
- Anti-flash gloves.
- Damage control/firefighter's helmet.
- Firefighter's gloves.
- Firemen's boots.
- Stowage bag.
- Flashlight, explosion proof.
- OBA. See Chapter 31 for details.

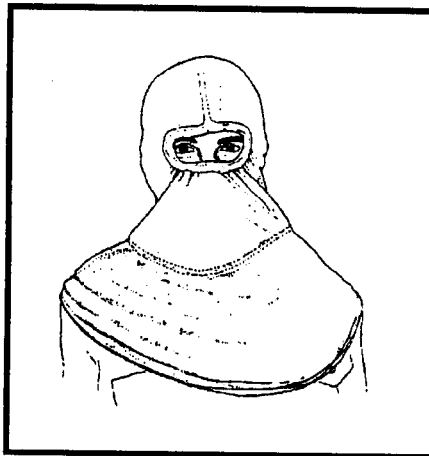
30-3. **CONSTRUCTION.** The following paragraphs provide details on the construction of the items contained in the firefighter's ensemble.

a. **Firefighter's Coveralls.** The coverall design is a one piece, jump suit style (see Figure 30-1, page 30-2). The coverall has a tough outer shell, a vapor barrier, and an inner fire retardant thermal liner. The knees, bottoms of the thigh pockets, and bottoms of the legs are reinforced with leather padding for extra protection. As an additional safety feature, the coverall has reflective markings around the upper arms, lower legs, and torso to highlight the outline of the firefighter, so he can be seen in dense smoke or dim light. The front closure and inside lower legs have brass zippers. There are bellow pockets with velcro closures on the outside of each thigh and on the front of the upper left arm. The coveralls have a corduroy faced collar with snap fasteners. The sleeves have an integral knit wristlet for wrist protection and small loops (thumb holes) on the ends of the sleeve wristlets to insert your thumbs to anchor and keep the sleeve from riding up the arm. The coveralls are available in five sizes (small through extra-large-tall).

b. **Firefighter's Anti-Flash Hood.** The firefighter's anti-flash hood provides protection to the head, neck, and face (except the eyes). The hood can be worn with the OBA. It has an elastic face closure and is available in a single size which fits all. The face portion can be pulled up over the nose for additional protection of the face (see Figure 30-2, page 30-2).



*Figure 30-1. Firefighter's coveralls*



*Figure 30-2. Firefighter's anti-flash hood*

c. **Anti-Flash Gloves.** The use of the gloves is to protect personnel from elevated air temperatures resulting in burns caused by fire. The gloves are made from fire retardant cotton and one size fits all (see Figure 30-3).

d. **Damage Control/Firefighter's Helmet.** The helmet is designed to protect the head, neck, and face from flame (flash) exposure, heat, and falling objects. The helmet shell material is heat resistant fiberglass and is provided with a face shield, chin strap, adjustable suspension, reflective markings, and a liner that covers the side of the head and neck (see Figure 30-4).

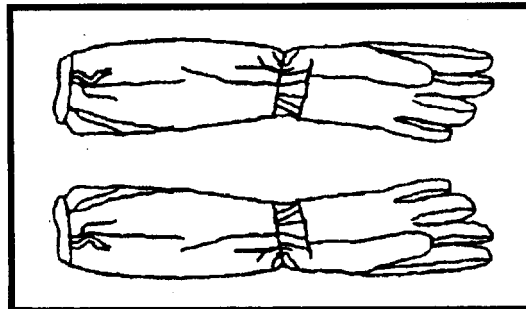
### CAUTION

Do not modify the helmet in any manner, including removing the face shield and drilling holes to attach a light. Modification will reduce the protection provided by the helmet.

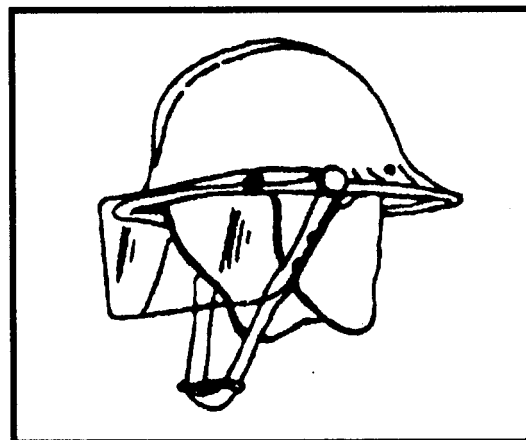
e. **Firefighter's Gloves.** The gloves protect against abrasions, short duration flame (flash) exposure, and heat. The five-finger cut, gauntlet gloves are fabricated from leather and have a waterproof vapor barrier and fire retardant liner (see Figure 30-5, page 30-4). The gauntlet provides wrist protection. The gloves are available in five sizes (extra small through extra large).

f. **Fireman's Boots.** The rubber boots have steel safety toes and puncture proof steel insoles (see Figure 30-6, page 30-4). Fireman's boots are available in two models, knee high and hip length. The US Army currently is using the knee high version. Knee high boots are worn inside the coveralls and are available in sizes 5 through 15.

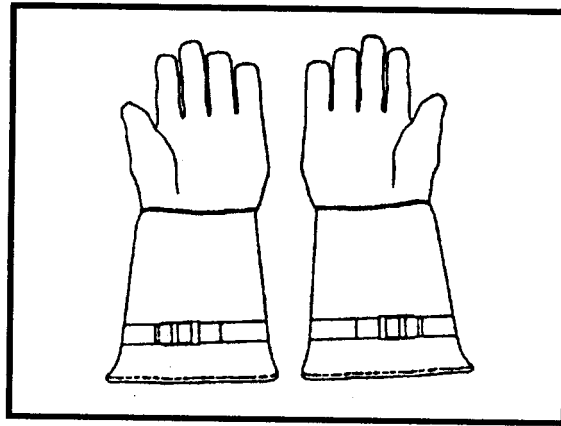
g. **Stowage Bag.** The stowage bag is provided to preassemble the ensemble for stowage. This bag is constructed of canvas duck with carrying straps (see Figure 30-7, page 30-4). In emergency situations, after removing the ensemble from the bag, the stowage bag can be used for transporting other damage control equipment to the scene. In particular, the bag can be used to move spare OBA's and canisters.



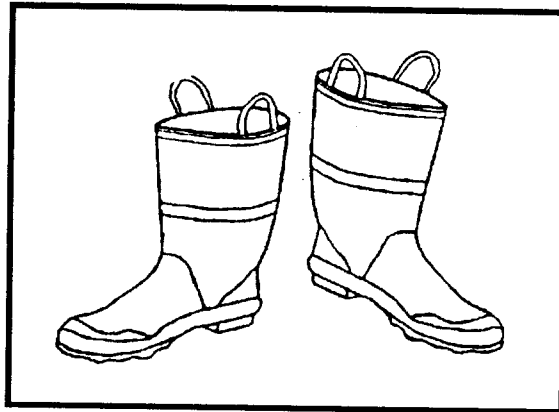
*Figure 30-3. Anti-flash gloves*



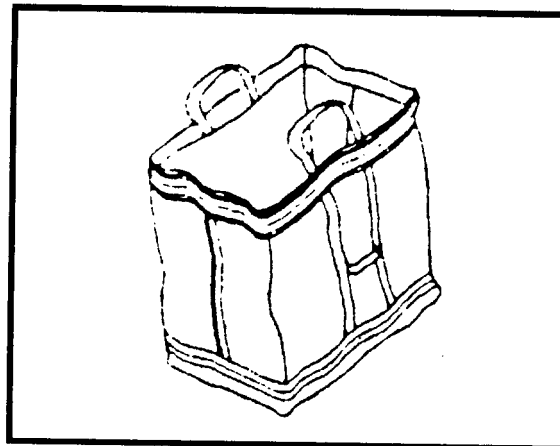
*Figure 30-4. DC/firefighter's helmet*



*Figure 30-5. Firefighter's gloves*



*Figure 30-6. Fireman's boots*



*Figure 30-7. Ensemble stowage bag*

**30-4. DONNING AND ADJUSTING.** An intricate part of the fire fighting ensemble is the type A-4 OBA. The following steps will instruct the user on how to don and adjust the fire fighting ensemble including the OBA.

- The OBA is stowed with an anti-flash hood protecting the facepiece lens. Remove the anti-flash hood from the OBA facepiece lens ring and put the hood over the face.
- Keep your pants and shirts on. Remove your shoes or boots and remove anything else that will interfere with donning the coverall, such as items in pockets. Put on the coveralls and pull them up and over your shoulders. Insert thumbs through the small loops on the ends of the sleeve wristlets to anchor and keep the sleeves over the wrists and under the gloves.
- Step into the fireman's boots. Never put on the boots before you put on the coveralls. Secure the two zippers on the bottom of the coverall legs.
- Stand up the coverall collar and ensure the anti-flash hood is fully inside the collar and down the chest as far as possible. Close the coverall front body zipper and the two collar snaps.
- Don the OBA. Do not secure the facepiece.
- Pull the anti-flash hood face opening down around your neck. Put on the OBA facepiece, tighten straps, and check for facepiece straps, with the elastic opening over your face. Secure the velcro closure on the coverall collar. Put the helmet on, secure helmet liner flap velcro fastener, and fasten the chin strap. Loosen face shield fasteners on the sides of the helmet brim and rotate the face shield over the OBA facepiece to protect the breathing apparatus from debris and water. Remove the gloves from the leg pockets and put them on. Ensure they cover the coverall wristlets (see Figure 30-8, page 30-6).

**NOTE**

Keep the OBA breathing tubes outside the coverall and helmet liner flap.

**30-5. REMOVAL OF GEAR.** To takeoff the gear, reverse the donning order. Remove the gloves, pull up the helmet face shield, loosen the helmet liner flap velcro fastener, take the helmet off, and open the coverall collar closure. Pull the anti-flash hood down around your neck and take off the OBA facepiece. Take off the OBA, pull off the anti-flash hood, step out of the boots, and remove the coveralls.

**30-6. STOWAGE.** The firefighter ensemble should be stowed in the ensemble stowage bag. The ensemble shall be preassembled and the bags located in, or near, DC lockers so that they are easily accessible. Before being stowed, ensure the ensemble is clean and dry. Stow the anti-flash hood over the facepiece of the OBA. Atypical DC stowage area is shown in Figure 30-9, page 30-6.

**WARNING**

DO NOT stow firefighter's protective clothing, OBA, and OBA canisters inside the vessel's super structure or engine room.

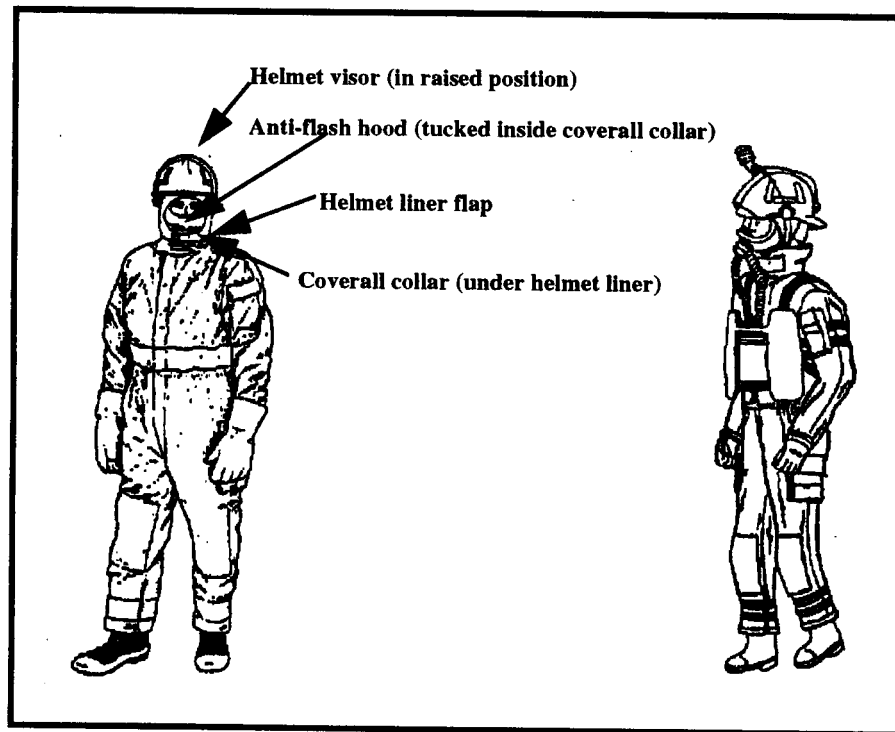


Figure 30-8. Fully donned ensemble / Fully donned with OBA

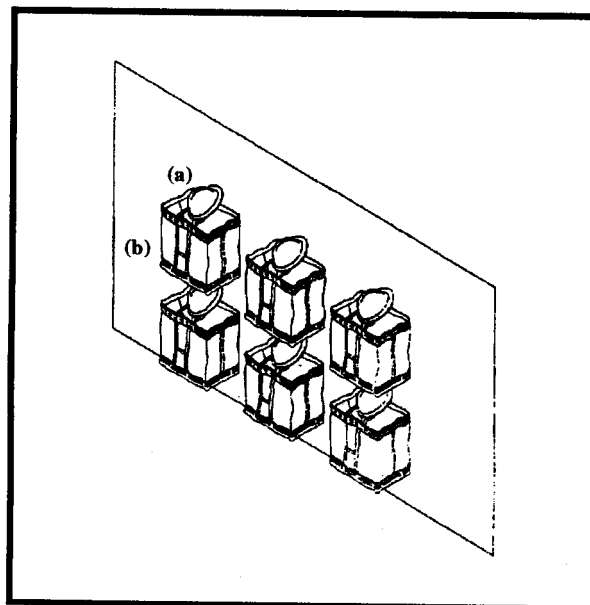


Figure 30-9. Typical DC equipment stowage area

30-7. **PROCUREMENT.** Order the following items by their appropriate NSN.

- Firefighter's Coveralls.

- Small (NSN 8415-01-300-6556).
- Medium (NSN 8415-01-300-6557).
- Large (NSN 8415-01-300-6558).
- X-Large (NSN 8415-01-300 6559).
- X-Large, Tall (NSN 8415-01-300-6560).

- Hood, Anti-flash (NSN 8415-01-268-3473). NOTE: One size fits all.
- Gloves, Anti-flash (NSN 8415-01-267-9661). NOTE: One size fits all.
- Helmet, DC/firefighter's (NSN 8415-01-271-8069). NOTE: One size fits all.  
POC for local purchase: Bullard, Model #FXA-1. Telephone (606) 234-6611.  
Lion, Model #LFH 3700-N, Style 40, RED.  
Telephone 1-800-421-2926 or (5 13) 898-1949

- Gloves, Firefighter's. NOTE: The gloves currently in the stock system are no longer authorized for procurement. However, those in service may continue to be worn for fire fighting until the need for replacement. Gloves from the commercial sources listed below are now authorized:

- Style No. G100B, Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XLG.

Lion Apparel  
3401 Park Center Drive  
Dayton, OH 45414  
(800) 421-2926

- Style No. "TEMPO PRO", Sizes: XSM thru Jumbo.

Tempo Glove Manufacturer Company  
3820 W. Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53208  
(414) 344-1100

- Style No. LWG-N, Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XLG, XXL, and Jumbo. Specific ordering info: "No. 6560" must be indicated on purchase order.

Morning Pride Manufacturer Company  
1 Innovation Court  
P.O. Box 14516  
Dayton, OH 45313-4925  
(5 13) 454-4925

- Style No. 5281, Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XLG, and Jumbo.

Shelby Specialty Gloves  
P.O. Box 171814  
Memphis, TN 38187-1814  
(800) 888-3598

- Boots, Firefighter's.
  - Size 5 (NSN 8430-00-753-5935).
  - Size 6 (NSN 8430-00-753-5936).
  - Size 7 (NSN 8430-00-753-5937).
  - Size 8 (NSN 8430-00-753-5938).
  - Size 9 (NSN 8430-00-753-5939).
  - Size 10 (NSN 8430-00-753-5940).
  - Size 11 (NSN 8430-00-753-5941).
  - Size 12 (NSN 8430-00-753-5942).
  - Size 13 (NSN 8430-00-753-5943).
  - Size 14 (NSN 8430-00-753-5944).
  - Size 15 (NSN 8430-00-753-5945).
- Bag, Canvas (NSN 8465-01-316-5706).
- Flashlight, Explosion proof, 2 cell (NSN 6230-00-269-3034).